



## Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District

### **SNOWMASS-WILDCAT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held  
January 17, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District was held on Tuesday January 17, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Noting that a quorum was present Chair Elizabeth Striegler called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Call to Order:** 8:32 a.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

The following Board members were present Elizabeth Striegler, Greg Balko, Scott Arthur, Dave Heivly and Drew Detrick (via Lifesize). SWFPD Pension Board member Thomas Dunlop. RFFRA Board members present Ed VanWalraven, Leroy Duroux, and John Young. Also, present were Chief Scott Thompson, Deputy Chiefs Richard Cornelius (via Lifesize) and Kevin Issel, Deputy Fire Marshal Brooke Stott, Assistant Fire Marshal Jim Pidcock, Human Resources Director Renee Thomas, IT Director Erik Johnson, Lieutenants James Dirkes, Mo McPhee (via Lifesize), Jason Smith, Attorney Bob Cole (via Lifesize), Firefighters Nicholas Braun, Matt Evans, Austin Every, Kristen Gallagher, Ryan Lee, and Executive Assistant Jennifer Diamond.

#### **Approval of Minutes from December 06, 2022:**

Director Striegler made a motion to approve the December 6, 2022, regular minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Arthur. Director Balko requested one correction. We have 22 cash accounts but the year 2022 is in there. All were in favor and the motion carried 5 – 0.

#### **Fire Chief's Report:**

Chief Thompson explained Resolutions One and Two.

Resolution Number One Designating Location to Post Notice. Director Arthur made a motion to approve resolution one as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Balko. All were in favor and the motion carried 5 – 0.

Resolution Number Two Election Resolution for 2023 Regular District Election. Director Detrick made a motion to approve resolution two as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Arthur. All were in favor and the motion carried 5 – 0.

Director Balko asked if we were changing election officials. Chief Thompson stated that it was reverting back to Jenn because she has a greater knowledge of elections. We will

be dealing with two towns and two counties. The election resolution also states that we are going to do a mail ballot election. The November election will be a coordinated election with the Counties.

Chief Thompson stated that a joint Board meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. We will do a couple of hours in the morning, take a lunch break, and continue the meeting for a couple of hours in the afternoon. We will be discussing the master plan. We haven't gotten the two Boards together for a joint meeting on a yearly basis like we said we would. The meeting will start out with policy governance because he has received a lot of questions about this topic in the last year. We will set goals for the master plan and appoint a focus group. The focus group will meet every two weeks.

**Finance Report:**

Chair Elizabeth Striegler stated that Alpine Bank had a computer glitch and the December bank statements were not received until last week. Finance Director Jennifer Thompson hasn't had a chance to complete year end financials. The profit and loss statement included in your packet gives a good picture of where we are right now. No questions were asked.

**Attorney's Report:**

Attorney Cole stated that he had been working with HR Director Thomas on a few updates to the policy manual over the last month. His office prepared the usual annual resolutions.

**Public Comments:**

None

**Board Member Comments:**

None

**Staff Comments:**

Chief Thompson thanked the Board for the wonderful awards dinner this past Saturday at the Roaring Fork Club.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Director Balko stated that he wants to start a conversation with the Board regarding using the left-over money from building Station 45 to purchase employee housing. He only concern is that the money used to build Station 45 has come from the Snowmass tax payers and he feels that whatever is purchased should remain the property of the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District. Chief Thompson stated that this is written about in the creation agreement. The left-over funds won't be enough to purchase anything so some additional funds will need to come from the Basalt & Rural Fire

Protection District. The money doesn't need to be spent in District but it needs to benefit the District.

Director Balko stated that he knows that we have a Union but he doesn't ever see any reports from them. Would it be appropriate to have a Union representative come to the Board meeting and give a report or include Union meeting minutes in the Board packet. Chief Thompson stated that we don't recognize the Union. We do not bargain with the Union. Attorney Cole stated that the Union has a presence but because they have not been recognized as a bargaining unit, there is no official relationship between the District and the Union. Director Balko asked for some history on the Union/District relationship. Chief Thompson that a Union is about bargaining. We are following State law. He does meet and confer with the Union members so that we have a very good relationship. As far as the Union having a seat at the table, that is not going to happen.

Chair Elizabeth Striegler stated that she was going to bring it up at the RFFRA meeting. She would like to see the financials posted on our website. Is this something we would like to do? Director Balko stated that we could do this quarterly so it is not burdensome. He thinks that the taxpayers would like to see this information. Attorney Cole stated that this isn't required by State law. Probably less than half of all special districts do this regularly. You see this more with towns, counties, and municipalities. It is up to the Board whether to do so or not.

**Executive Session (if needed):**

None

**Non-Agenda Items:**

None

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Director Balko made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, it was seconded by Director Arthur and the motion carried 5 – 0. Chair Elizabeth Striegler declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

To watch the Board meeting in its entirety, please click on the link below.

[https://youtu.be/VTXbS\\_kW11I](https://youtu.be/VTXbS_kW11I)

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